

SATURDAY'S TV FILMS

ROBBERY UNDER ARMS (BBC2) 1957

Nineteenth-century Australia is the setting for this tale of robbery and romance in which Peter Finch stars as the legendary Captain Starlight, a kind of Outback Robin Hood. The Marston brothers, played by Ronald Lewis and David McCallum, join his outlaw gang and ride the range in search of adventure. Marvellous scenery and a great cast, which includes Maureen Swanson and Jill Ireland, make this well worth a watch.

12.20-1.55pm

THE SUNDOWNERS (BBC2) 1960

Another visit to the Australian Outback for this epic adventure story of a sheep-farming family who move from farm to farm in search of work. Marvellous stuff from Bob Mitchum and Deborah Kerr who, complete with Aussie accents, demonstrate what good acting is all about. Peter Ustinov and Glynis Johns also play their part while Rupert Davies' sidekick in BBC Television's *Maigret* series, Ewen Solon, also puts in an appearance.

1.55-4.05pm



Reese Witherspoon, Bruce Davidson, Joanna Kerns and Joe Mazzello face up to leukemia in *Solomon's Choice*

A GREEN JOURNEY (YTV) 1990

Angela Lansbury shows that she is more than just a TV screen sleuth as she casts aside the Jessica Fletcher role and joins Denholm Elliott in this tale of the unexpected which finds Miss Lansbury as a retired spinster schoolteacher setting off for Ireland to seek out a pen pal which she has never met.

2.05-3.45pm

AIRWOLF (YTV) 1983

First part of the pilot film which spawned the television action series of *The Eighties*. Jan-Michael Vincent stars as the pilot charged by the government with the express task of retrieving the stolen advanced combat helicopter, *Airwolf*. Ernest Borgnine and David Hemmings also star.

3.45-4.45pm

By MALCOLM ROBERTSHAW

SOLOMON'S CHOICE (Channel 4) 1992

Powerful drama which revolves around a young leukaemia sufferer's fight to survive despite her mother's opposition to the young girl's brother becoming a bone marrow transplant donor for his sister.

8.25-10.10pm

DESPERATE JUSTICE (BBC1) 1993

A superb piece of acting from Lesley Ann Warren is this film's only claim to fame. However, it is still worth a watch as Miss Warren's quality shines through in a role which casts her as a mother who dispenses her own justice to the man accused of raping her daughter.

9.15-10.45pm

DOUBLE IMPACT (YTV) 1991

The ladies to whom Jean-Claude Van Damme appeals will be more than happy to watch two of him on screen as he takes on the dual role of identical twins. But those who appreciate a glimmer of acting talent will be disappointed yet again as action man presents a wooden performance as twins who were separated at birth and are reunited 29 years later, vowing to avenge the murder of their parents.

10.00-11.55pm



Leader of the pack — Johnny (Marlon Brando) is questioned by the sheriff (J.C. Flippen) in *The Wild One*

THE MAIN FEATURE

THE WILD ONE (Channel 4) 1953

Just about banned in Britain until 1968, it may look a little dated now, but this is the quintessential bikers' movie in which Marlon Brando is simply brilliant as Johnny, the leather jacket-clad leader of the pack. Like James Dean a couple of years later, Brando is a true rebel without a cause (when the waitress asks what he's rebelling against, he laconically replies: "Whaddya got?") as he and his gang of bikers, the Black Rebels, terrorise a small American township before being confronted by a rival outfit. Mary Murphy and Lee Marvin also star.

2.15-3.35am



High kicking Jean-Claude Van Damme in *Double Impact*

12.20-2.05am

THE HUNTING PARTY (BBC1) 1971

Outlaw Oliver Reed finds himself in the killing fields of Texas when he kidnaps Candice Bergen, the wife of a sadistic cattle baron. Gene Hackman is the vicious Texan tycoon who revels in the cat and mouse game unaware that his wife is becoming attracted to her captor. Great outdoor shots help what is a fairly predictable film along, but don't look for the yellow rose of Texas, the filming was actually done in Spain!

SUNDAY'S TV FILMS

AGATHA CHRISTIE'S A**CARIBBEAN MYSTERY (YTV) 1983**

I know that I have said it before, but Helen Hayes is not in the same league as Joan Hickson and Margaret Rutherford when it comes to portraying Agatha Christie's ace sleuth Miss Marple. However, the storyline is entertaining and the setting gorgeous as the Devon detective moves further afield and tries to unravel the mysterious death on a Caribbean island of an elderly army major.

2.55-4.35pm

ONE FALSE MOVE (Channel 4) 1992

It's doubtful if you have ever heard of any of the cast but this is definitely a top-drawer crime thriller which, despite being punctuated by some scenes of shocking violence, is a gripping affair. The action focuses on a murderous trio who begin by wreaking havoc at a Los Angeles party and continue to create headaches for the pursuing police posse throughout the film.

10.00pm-12.00 midnight

ST ELMO'S FIRE (YTV) 1985

This is a return to the sights and sounds of *The Eighties* which focuses on seven American college pals trying to make their way in the world. Fairly watchable if only for the trip down memory lane but I doubt if the likes of Demi Moore, Rob Lowe, Emilio Estevez and Judd Nelson would be able to watch without a grimace or two!

11.00pm-1.00am



The way we were — Ally Sheedy, Jud Nelson, Emilio Estevez, Demi Moore, Rob Lowe, Mare Winningham and Andrew McCarthy in *St Elmo's Fire*



Helen Hayes plays Miss Marple in *A Caribbean Mystery*



Jane Fonda and Robert Redford in *Barefoot in the Park*

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK (BBC1) 1967

A superb Neil Simon comedy in which Robert Redford is a joy to watch as he and Jane Fonda play a newly-wed couple setting up home in Greenwich Village. At times hilariously funny, the script maintains its high standard throughout the film which is more than can be said for the honeymooning prowess of Redford who, after six days at home alone with the sexy Miss Fonda, decides enough is enough and staggers back to work to recharge his batteries!

11.35pm-1.20am

WOMEN ON THE VERGE OF A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN (BBC2) 1988

In Spanish with English subtitles, this bizarre comedy casts Carmen Maura as a woman is driven to the brink of insanity after being left in the lurch by her lover.

11.40pm-1.10am

THE JOKE (Channel 4) 1969

In Czech with English subtitles, this drama is set in the Stalinist era and focuses on a young man who seeks revenge for the damage done to his career when a friend accuses him of being a Trotskyist.

12.00 midnight-1.30am

KOHRA (YTV) 1993

A tense Indian drama in which two young lovers become involved in a diamond smuggling plot. Ayesha Julka and Sadashiv Amrapurkar star.

1.40-4.35am